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CHILDREN 10c At All Times

G-E *Campus News*

IN A PADDED CELL

RESEARCH moves in devious ways its wonders to perform. G.E. has a padded cell in its general engineering laboratory at Schenectady—for the isolation of extraneous sounds. Confined in it, at intervals, are motors, fans, and other equipment which serves best when heard least. The cell is a room within a room. The outer wall is of sound-absorbing plaster; then come hollow tile, air space, felt, another layer of plaster, more air space, sheet iron, air space, lathwork, and a thick layer of cotton waste. Total thickness, a foot and a half. Within the chamber a "noise meter" tracks down outlawed decibels.

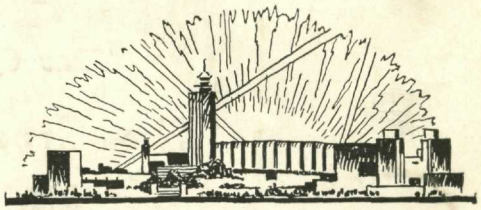
Last year, the noise meter left its padded cell and traveled to Manhattan's Metropolitan Opera House. Ensconced in a grand tier box next to that of Manager Giulio Gatti-Casazza, it measured voices, orchestra, and applauding hands while "Rigoletto" was sung. The meter discovered that Beniamino Gigli registered 77 decibels,— a street car in full progress makes only 65. Laboratory devices do have their big moments.

FORE!

"WOW! What a drive! If I could hit 'em like that, I'd sure break a hundred." Just a few comments as a national driving champ smacked a golf ball out of sight. Occasion—the demonstration of a new G-E device for measuring speeds heretofore not measurable because of their nature. The apparatus registered the speed of the champ's club head at 125 miles per hour; an average player is lucky to register 70. No wonder the champion can hit them so far.

The ball is driven from a low platform. Just back of the ball, two parallel beams of light are at right angles to the path of the club head. Each beam hits an "electric eye" or photoelectric tube. A split second before striking the ball, the driver cuts the first beam, and almost immediately afterwards cuts the second beam. Both phototubes operate Thyratron tubes, the first one causing a condenser to begin charging and the second one stopping it. The charge is measured by a meter which is calibrated in terms of miles per hour.

And don't worry about swinging too fast. H. W. Lord, who perfected the apparatus, says it will measure speeds up to about a thousand miles per hour. What a drive that would make! Incidentally, Lord is a '26 grad of the California Institute of Technology.



"A CENTURY OF PROGRESS"

THIS summer, if you go to Chicago, you will visit an Aladdin fairyland; "A Century of Progress" will be the greatest night exposition ever held. You will see a veritable aurora borealis, artificially produced. Walter D'Arcy Ryan, veteran G-E illuminating engineer, is working in Chicago to help make the exposition the most spectacular ever seen. And well qualified for the job he is. An engineer-artist—schooled at St. Mary's, in Halifax—he has directed the illumination for many similar events. When you go to Chicago, you will agree that a masterpiece has been created.

And you should not miss the G-E "House of Magic," the most amazing part of the General Electric display at the exposition. There, recent discoveries and developments of our Research Laboratory will be presented in a fascinating manner. "Bill" Gluesing, a '23 grad of the U. of Wisconsin, will have charge of the lectures and demonstrations. In addition, many G-E machines and appliances in the great circular hall of the electrical building will dramatize the rapidity of electrical progress. We'll see you at the exposition. Remember, it's from June 1st to October 31st.

95-990DH

GENERAL ELECTRIC